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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/777,371	02/12/2004	Wayne T. Holcombe	P1996US	4589
8968	7590	03/29/2006		
GARDNER CARTON & DOUGLAS LLP ATTN: PATENT DOCKET DEPT. 191 N. WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 3700 CHICAGO, IL 60606			EXAMINER SWERDLOW, DANIEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2615	

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/777,371	Applicant(s) HOLCOMBE ET AL.	
	Examiner Daniel Swerdlow	Art Unit 2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2006.
 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 19-21 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-21 is/are rejected.
 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Handford et al. (US Patent 5,633,925).

3. Regarding Claim 19, Handford discloses a circuit for extracting power from a telephone line for powering a telephone device (Fig. 2; column 1, lines 5-10) in which: the circuit is coupled to a first terminal (A) of a telephone line pair through a first high impedance resistor (between gate of MOSFET 22 and terminal A); the circuit is coupled to a second terminal (B) of a telephone line pair through a second high impedance resistor (between gate of MOSFET 21 and terminal B); and power is generated from the telephone line pair using a switched mode power supply that corresponds to the polarity steering regenerative switch claimed and is coupled to the resistors (Fig. 2; column 2, lines 29-49).

4. Regarding Claim 20, Handford further discloses: a first PMOS transistor (21) with a drain (d) coupled to the first I/O pin (A) and the gate (g) coupled to the second I/O pin (B); a second PMOS transistor (22) with a drain (d) coupled to the second I/O pin (B), a gate (g) coupled to the first I/O pin (A) and a source (s) coupled to the source (s) of the first PMOS transistor (21) such that a supply voltage (V LOAD+) that corresponds to the idle supply voltage claimed is

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generated at the sources of the PMOS transistors responsive to voltage at the I/O pins (A, B) (Fig. 2; column 2, lines 29-49).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Handford in view of Tsurusaki et al (US Patent 5,105,461).

7. Regarding Claim 21, as shown above apropos of Claim 19, Handford anticipates all elements except generating a logic level line polarity signal using the polarity steering regenerative switch. Tsurusaki discloses a telephone line interface circuit (Fig. 2) with an arrangement of rectifiers (5, 6, 7, 9, 10) that corresponds to the polarity steering regenerative switch claimed and is used to generate a polarity inversion detection that corresponds to the logic level line polarity signal claimed (column 2, lines 27-34). Tsurusaki further discloses that such an arrangement permits detection of a central office disconnect, allowing, for example, accurate calculation of charges (column 2, lines 62-64). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply polarity inversion detection as taught by Tsurusaki to the circuit taught by Handford for the purpose of realizing the aforesaid advantages.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to Claims 19 through 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 1 through 16 are allowed.
10. Claims 1 through 9 have been amended to resolve issues of indefiniteness under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. As such, these claims are allowable for reasons stated in the prior Office action.
11. Claims 10 through 15 are allowable for reasons stated in the prior Office action.

Conclusion

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Swerdlow whose telephone number is 571-272-7531. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 7:30 AM and 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh H. Tran can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Daniel Swerdlow
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2615

ds
20 March 2006